

**TRAFFIC BOARD MEETING 1007**  
**MINUTES**  
**Planning Conference Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, City Hall**  
**Thursday, June 11, 2015**

**Call to Order.** Called to order at 10.04 a.m. by Jared Kraham, Executive Assistant to the Mayor.

**Traffic Board Member Present:** Jared Kraham, Executive Assistant to the Mayor; Bill Berg, Councilman; Rich Perkins, Engineering; Terry Kellogg, DPW Commissioner

**Traffic Board Members Absent:** William Yeager, Acting Police Chief

**Also Present:** John Ryan, BPD Internal Affairs Captain; Dan Correll, retired BPD Officer; William Lescault, BPD Traffic; Katherine Davis, Principal Clerk; Chuck Lucress, Conklin Ave First Baptist Church; Terri Rennia, Councilwoman; Tito Martinez, Planning; Cindy Paddick, BMTS; Leo O'Connor, 33 Riverside Drive

**Approval of Minutes.** Request to approve the minutes Traffic Board Meeting 1006, held on Thursday, May 14, 2015, as amended.

Moved by R. Perkins seconded by B. Berg

**Motion carried. (Vote 4-0-1)**

Ayes: B. Berg, R. Perkins, J. Kraham, T. Kellogg

Nays: None

Absent: W. Yeager

**Items Considered**

**Mary Street and Sherwood Avenue.** Ms. Marcia Huntoon of 152 Mary Street is requesting a barrier or guide rail to protect her property at the corner of Mary Street and Sherwood Avenue. She indicated that the request is based on numerous accidents and near accidents at that location. Traffic board requested additional follow-up with Ms. Huntoon. Mr. Correll reported that there were only two incidents at this location and it had nothing to do with the cars coming down the hill. The Traffic Division does not see a reason for a barricade at this location. Mr. Perkins asked why the stop signs are on Sherwood Avenue and not Mary Street when Mary Street is the more traveled route. He will take a drive to look at this location and Ms. Paddick will look into counts (in May) for this intersection as well. Mr. Perkins reported that he will have the data by the July Mtg. **Hold until Thursday, July 9, 2015 meeting.**

**224 Main St.** Sidewalk relocation to accommodate new parking construction. **Item complete.**

Traffic reported the following:

*The Traffic Division, as a follow up to a request by Catholic Charities to move a cross walk from its present location across Main Street east of the intersection of Orton Avenue to its requested location, west of Orton Avenue, upon reviewing the traffic incidents for the intersection of Main Street and Orton Avenue for the time period of June 1, 2012 to June 10, 2015 submits the following:*

*2013 – 1 incident (failure to yield the right of way –unsafe turn- violation).*

*The relocating of the crosswalk from one side of the intersection to the other, if necessary, does not appear to create a hazardous move.*

**Hayes Street.** A request was made by Mr. Chuck Lucress of the Conklin Ave. 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church to install handicapped parking spaces on this street for his elderly congregation. Mr. Kraham notified Mr. Lucress that he must first go through Engineering for approval before it comes to Traffic Board. **Item complete.**

**33 Riverside Dr.** A request from Leo O'Connor for an additional curb cut at his property. Mr. O'Connor reported their plans for the additional curb cut. Mr. Martinez reported that Planning does not find any problems with the plans. Traffic reported the following:

*The Traffic Division responded to that location to review the request on site. The traffic pattern does not create an increase in traffic entering or exiting the location as only his clientele would use the driveway. There are no adjacent or conflicting driveways that would violate the spacing required between driveway cuts and the width of the cut, twelve feet, well within the 20 foot maximum width. The south side curb line of Rivers Drive in that area is posted as No Parking Anytime thus the line of site for traffic entering or exiting that location is unobstructed and good. The Traffic Division finds no reason to deny this request.*

**Motion to insert curbcut at 33 Riverside Drive**

Moved by R. Perkins seconded by B. Berg

**Motion carried. (Vote 4-0-1)**

Ayes: B. Berg, R. Perkins, J. Kraham, T. Kellogg

Nays: None

Absent: W. Yeager

**Jackson Street/Tompkins Street.** Update on traffic incidents. **Item Complete.**

Traffic reported the following:

*The Traffic Division upon reviewing the traffic incidents for the intersection of Tompkins Street and Jackson Street for the time period of March 11, 2012 to March 12, 2015, submits the following:*

*2012 - 2 incidents (1 – following too closely; 1 unsafe backing)*

*2013 – 1 incident ( red light violation).*

*2014 – 3 incidents ( 1 involving a canine, 1 following too closely, 1 unknown).*

*Of the six incidents only four were related to human error.*

**Leroy Street/Oak Street traffic light.** Ms. Paddick reported that before BMTS continues to do research on this specific intersection she needs to know that it is truly warranted. Mr. Correll reported that there was no increase in incidents at this location since the signal has been removed and Traffic feels that the four way stop signs have been working well. Mr. Berg noted that in the past couple of weeks there have been several letters to the editor regarding this intersection and putting the light back in. Mr. Kraham stated that the city will stay with the recommendation of the BMTS and keep this a four way stop. Mr. Berg requested that the old light be back up until the Riverside study is done. Mr. Perkins stated that you can't just put up an old light because it has to be brought up to required standards now. It cannot be grandfathered in. Ms. Rennie's concerns are: the businesses are very upset about the signals being removed without any conversation with them about it before it was done and second, she is concerned about pedestrian safety and line of site with so many cars parked on the street. **Hold until Thursday, July 9, 2015 meeting.**

**Handicap Ramp install-Corner of Prospect Street and Glenwood Avenue.** Councilman Motsavage requested that Traffic Board to look into this installation per a resident in his district. Concern is that the location of the installation is too far from the intersection making it a potential safety issue. **Hold until Thursday, July 9, 2015 meeting.**

Traffic reported the following:

*The Traffic Division responded to that intersection to review the concern. Paint markings for the curb cut and crossings were indicated on the sidewalk. It appears that the planned location of the cut is on the south side of Prospect Street about fifty feet east of Glenwood Avenue with a corresponding curb cut on the north curb line, which is about eighty feet east of Glenwood Avenue. It is assumed that a crosswalk would run north and south between these two cuts. The concern is that instead of being a location where a wheel chaired pedestrian is visible to motorist and vice versa it located around an acute angled corner making visibility limited thus creating a hazardous condition.*

*A statement in the attached motioned correspondence states that a city engineer said the “the corner at the light is too crowded with signal boxes and utility cables to install at the light”. There are several utility colored markings indicated on the sidewalk probably supporting his statement, however, it would not support the moving of the crossing or curb cut placements if it jeopardized pedestrian safety.*

*It is unsure what action transpired to make this issue relevant as there were not reported increases in handicapped usage in this area. A new business did open on the south west corner of that intersection with new sidewalks and curb cuts installed, and it could be assumed that with their requirement to place handicapped ramp curb cuts with the installation of a new sidewalk , that this would require handicapped ramp access for all the corners.*

*If this was the issue and the new business assumed the expense of the sidewalk placement and compliance with utility access through that corner, then the expense to make the other three corners utility accessible would be assumed and borne somewhere but not at the expense of pedestrian safety.*

*The Traffic Division therefore recommends that the proposed curb cuts and assumed crosswalks not be moved from its present location.*

**Johnson Avenue and Beethoven Street.** Sherry Turner, a resident on Johnson Avenue requested that Traffic Board look into the safety of this intersection. She is concerned that so many employees from Lourdes Hospital are parking on this street causing a light of site issue which makes it hard to turn at this intersection. Motorists can’t see oncoming traffic without going into the intersection to see beyond the parked cars. Her request is as follows, “Please make that end of the street a "No Parking" zone and/or allow parking on only one side of the street or both for the block. Please also advise Lourdes that their employees are not to park their under any circumstances.”

***Motion to extend non parking zone on Johnson Avenue.***

Moved by B. Berg seconded by R. Perkins

**Motion carried. (Vote 4-0-1)**

Ayes: B. Berg, R. Perkins, J. Kraham, T. Kellogg

Nays: None

Absent: W. Yeager

**Adjournment.**

*Motion to adjourn at 10:55 a.m.*

Moved by B. Berg, seconded by R. Perkins

**Motion carried. (Vote 4-0-1)**

Ayes: B. Berg, R. Perkins, J. Kraham, T. Kellogg

Nays: None

Absent: W. Yeager